

16 June 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT : Suggested Position for DCI with Respect to PSB  
D-23 (June 10, 1953).

1. The Central Intelligence Agency agrees that a PSB paper, emphasizing the communist threat to Southeast Asia, the need for a coordinated U.S. effort to activate the necessary countermeasures in the fields of PSB concern, and implementing a plan to coordinate and control this U.S. effort, should be prepared, approved and placed in effect on the earliest possible date. The Agency believes that the proposed PSB D-23, with some modification, would adequately serve this purpose.

2. The suggested modifications in the conclusions (Section IV) and in the plan (Section V) are as follow:

a. Conclusions

(1) Conclusion 1 - page 25 - Insert the words "and in Indochina" between "area" and "poss" in the third line of paragraph 1.

(2) Conclusion 2 - page 25 - Delete the word "U.S." from second line of paragraph 2, and insert  "and operations therein are emasculated by" between "responsibility" and the comma following that word in the third line of paragraph 2.

(3) Conclusion 7 - page 26 - Replace the word "leadership" with "activated indigenous counter-efforts" in paragraph 7b.

b. Psychological Strategy Plan

(1) Page 27 - paragraph 2a(2)(a) - Delete the words "the Thai peoples of" on second line.

(2) Page 28 - paragraph 2b(1)(b) - Delete the words "western military participation" and insert instead "an effective counter-effort."

(3) Page 29 - paragraph 2b(4) - Insert the word "indigenous" between "of" and "guerrilla" and delete the words "composed"

25X1C

25X1C

(4) Page 31 - paragraph 2b(8)(a) - Replace "altruistic" with "logical" and [ ] with "indigenous."

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(5) Page 33 - paragraph 2c(1)(d) - Replace word "Thai" with "the" and insert words "of [ ] and other indigenous residents" between "aspirations" and "as."

25X1C

(6) Page 34 - paragraph 2c(3) - Replace "altruistic" with "logical."

(7) Page 35 - paragraph 3a(2) - Replace "leadership" with "support."

3. Two points of emphasis in the analysis (Section II) should be modified and brought into agreement with the conclusions and the plan as follows:

a. Page 1 - paragraph 1a - The significance of [ ] ethnic group is overemphasized. This applies also to the title, which should be changed by deleting the words "the Thai peoples of", and to the first sentence of paragraph 1d on page 3.

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b. Page 4 - paragraphs 2a and 2b - The idea of "vigorous and direct U.S. leadership" is erroneous. The U.S. must activate and support the counter-efforts of indigenous elements but U.S. direction and control must not be obvious. This concept is repeated in paragraphs 2d(2) and 2d(3) on page 7, and again in paragraph 4f on page 24 of Section III.

These same points occurred, but with lesser emphasis, in the conclusions and the plan where they have been modified by the changes proposed in paragraph 2 above.

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4. The analysis [ ] (Section III) contains one questionable point of emphasis in paragraphs 4f and 4f(1) on page 24. This relates to the idea of extending the authority of U.S. officials in [ ] throughout the area. All regional control should remain in the U.S., in view of the conflicting authorities involved in the area. Only coordination should be effected in the field.

25X1C

5. All references to CFA should be deleted throughout, in order to protect the status of that organization as a non-official agency.

6. The changes proposed modify the points of emphasis as follows:

a. The strategy should relate to Southeast Asia - not to the [ ] peoples alone.

b. The emphasis will be on U.S. support of indigenous leadership - not U.S. leadership per se.

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-3-

c. Area-wide control would be effected by Washington - not in the field.

d. Psychological emphasis would be on common concern and kindred motivation - not altruism.

e. CFA would not be mentioned.

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Deputy Chief, FE

FE/PM/CPB:lml

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